

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

July 19, 2006
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

# Councilmember Peggy Bilsten, Phoenix, Chair	# Mayor James Cavanaugh, Goodyear
* Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Vice Chair	# Councilmember Pat Dennis, Peoria
# Kent Andrews, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	# Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler
# F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee	# Councilmember Cliff Elkins, Surprise
* Councilmember Gail Barney, Queen Creek	* Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe
* Stephen Beard, SR Beard & Associates	* Eneas Kane, DMB Associates
# Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	# Joe Lane, State Transportation Board
* Dave Berry, Swift Transportation	# Mayor Marie Lopez-Rogers, Avondale
# Jed S. Billings, FNF Construction	# Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
# Mayor Bobby Bryant, Buckeye	* David Scholl, Westcor
	* Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale
	* Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County

* Not present
Participated by telephone conference call
+ Participated by videoconference call

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) was called to order by Chair Peggy Bilsten at 4:03 p.m.

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Before proceeding with the roll call, Chair Bilsten introduced and welcomed new members on the TPC: Mayor Bobby Bryant from Buckeye, Councilmember Gail Barney from Queen Creek; Mr. Kent Andrews from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and Councilmember Cliff Elkins from Surprise.

The roll call of members was taken.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Bilsten asked Mr. Arnett to lead the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Bilsten requested that members of the public turn in their public comment cards to staff. Chair Bilsten stated that transit tickets for those who used transit to attend the meeting and parking garage ticket validation were available from MAG staff. She noted the items that were previously transmitted to Committee members: For agenda item #6D, a memorandum reporting that the multi-agency review panel recommended to MAG the selection of RIESTER for the Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region for an amount not to exceed \$600,000; for agenda item #6F, Errata Sheet 07-8; for agenda item #6H, a report on discussions at the MAG Management Committee and Executive Committee; for agenda items #5, #6B, #6C, #6E, #6F, and #6G, a memorandum reporting the unanimous recommendations by the Management Committee on these items.

4. Call to the Audience

Chair Bilsten stated that an opportunity is provided to the public to address the Transportation Policy Committee on items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. She noted that an opportunity is provided to comment on agenda items posted for action at the time the item is heard. No requests for public comment were received.

5. FY 2006 MAG Final Phase Public Input Opportunity

Jason Stephens, MAG Public Involvement Planner, provided a report on the Final Phase input opportunity, which gives members of the public a final opportunity to provide comment on MAG transportation plans and programs. Mr. Stephens stated that MAG conducts a four-phase process that includes Early Phase, Mid-Phase, Final Phase and Continuous Involvement. He stated that as part of this Final Phase input opportunity, MAG co-sponsored several public input opportunities in May and June 2006 with the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail. Mr. Stephens stated that a Final Phase Transportation Open House and Public Hearing was held June 15, 2006 to provide information and receive comment on the Draft FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update and Draft 2006 MAG Conformity Analysis. Mr. Stephens reviewed some of the questions and comments received during these input opportunities. He added that staff responses to the questions and comments are included in the FY 2006 Final Phase Input Opportunity Report. Chair Bilsten thanked Mr. Stephens for his report. No comments from the Committee were noted.

Chair Bilsten recognized public comment from former Litchfield Park Mayor, Woody Thomas, who encouraged continuing to review efforts initiated under the TPC for commuter rail and the \$5 million set aside in the RTP to study it further. Mr. Thomas stated that transportation plans, the TIP and the RTP, do not include rail lines in place nor is the freight component specifically addressed in the plans. Mr. Thomas encouraged that this be included in future plans. He referenced the MAG book of maps. Mr. Thomas stated that the year 2030 freeway level of service PM peak map shows that after spending \$16 to \$17 billion, more highways will be at failing status due to continued growth. He commented that as proud as he was of serving on the TPC and working on the passage of Proposition 400, this shows that additional work is needed. Chair Bilsten thanked Mr. Thomas for his personal time and commitment to the TPC and on Proposition 400.

Mr. Arnett moved to recommend acceptance of the Draft FY 2006 MAG Final Phase Public Input Opportunity Report. Mayor Manross seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Bilsten stated that agenda items #6A, #6B, #6C, #6D, #6E, #6F, #6G, and #6H were on the consent agenda. Public comment is provided for consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the Consent Agenda. No public comment cards were received.

Dennis Smith provided an update on agenda item #6E. He said that following the July 12, 2006 Management Committee recommendation for approval of the Draft 2006 Conformity Analysis for the Draft FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program and the Draft Regional Transportation Plan 2006 Update, minor technical changes were made to the transportation networks for three park-and-ride lots. The revised regional emissions analysis for conformity purposes indicates that the emissions are slightly lower and even further below the conformity emissions limits.

Mr. Smith noted that the requested motion for agenda item #6D is to recommend approval of the selection of RIESTER for the Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region for an amount not to exceed \$600,000.

Chair Bilsten stated that any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Chair Bilsten asked members if they wanted to hear any of the consent agenda items. No requests were noted.

Chair Bilsten called for a motion to recommend approval of consent agenda items #6A, #6B, #6C, #6D, #6E, #6F, #6G, and #6H. Councilmember Dennis moved, Councilmember Elkins seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6A. Approval of June 21, 2006 Meeting Minutes

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, approved the June 21, 2006 meeting minutes.

6B. Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program Guidance Report

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended acceptance of the Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP Guidance Report. MAG is starting the process to develop the FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program. This TIP is tentatively targeted for approval in July 2007. The first step in the TIP process is the distribution of the TIP Guidance Report (TGR), which has been developed to act as a guide to decision makers to facilitate programming of transportation projects in the region. Most of the technical information provided by the regional management systems on safety, bridge conditions, transit vehicle needs, intermodal projects, and congestion levels has been updated where appropriate. Information is also provided on air quality conditions, Title VI and Environmental Justice factors and congestion management strategies. The TGR also contains the application forms for MAG Federal funds and represents the formal request for projects for addition to the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP. On June 29, 2006, the MAG Transportation Review Committee reviewed the TGR. On July 12, 2006, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the TGR.

6C. Federal Fiscal Year 2006 MAG Federal Funds Final Closeout and Amendment/Adjustments to the FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the final closeout of Federal FY 2006, and recommended amending/adjusting the FY 2006-2010 MAG TIP to allow the projects to proceed. On April 26, 2006, the MAG Regional Council approved the deferral of 19 projects, totaling almost \$11.2 million, from FFY 2006 to 2007 and, on June 28, 2006, the Regional Council approved the deferral of two more projects for a combined total of \$12.1 million. At the same meeting, the Council approved a list of projects to utilize the funds available and two further contingency projects, totaling \$1.3 million for any additional, supplemental or redistributed Obligation Authority (OA) that may become available. Since that time, one additional project, totaling \$800,000 has requested to be deferred, which effectively reduced the list of contingency projects to only \$500,000. The Transportation Review Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended an additional list of projects for any further additional, supplemental or redistributed OA that may become available during the remaining months of the federal fiscal year.

6D. Consultant Selection for the Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the selection of RIESTER to design and implement the Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region at a cost not to exceed \$600,000. On July 12, 2006, MAG received four proposals in response to a Request for Proposals to design and implement the Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region. Companies submitting proposals included HMA Public Relations, Keep Phoenix Beautiful, RIESTER, and Mindspace. A multi-agency review panel made up of participants from MAG member agencies met on July 13, 2006 to evaluate the proposals and determine if follow-up interviews were warranted. Three respondents were called in for follow-up interviews. Following the interview process, the multi-agency review panel unanimously recommended to MAG that RIESTER be selected as the consultant to design and implement the Litter Prevention and Education Program campaign, at a cost not to exceed \$600,000. The Litter Education and Prevention campaign will be administered by MAG in cooperation with ADOT. It is envisioned that state funds will be combined into the MAG contract and that the regional Litter Prevention and Education campaign will be issued through MAG. All elements of the program will be developed cooperatively between MAG and ADOT. The voter approved Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) includes \$279 million for the freeway maintenance program. One of the objectives of this program is to improve visual aesthetics along the highway system in the MAG region.

A recommendation regarding proposed tasks for a Litter Prevention and Education Program for the Regional Freeway System in the MAG Region was brought forward by the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) Subcommittee on Noise Mitigation and Freeway Maintenance to the full TPC on June 21, 2006 for input and approval. The TPC approved the recommended tasks and authorized MAG staff to publish a Request for Proposals on June 22, 2006. In January 25, 2006, the MAG Regional Council approved the expenditure of \$200,000 in MAG funds to be spent on Litter Prevention and Education, which will augment \$100,000 in ADOT resources for litter education. It is anticipated that the \$600,000 required to fund the Litter Prevention and Education Program will be paid for by the \$300,000 approved by the MAG Regional Council, with the remaining \$300,000 funded by the additional resources provided in the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

6E. Finding of Conformity for the Draft FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Draft Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update

The Draft 2006 Conformity Analysis concludes that the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Draft Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update meet all applicable federal conformity requirements and are in conformance with applicable air quality plans. On June 15, 2006, a public hearing was conducted on the Draft TIP, Draft Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update, and Draft Conformity Analysis. The MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2006 MAG Conformity Analysis for the Draft FY 2007-2011 MAG TIP and Draft 2006 Update. Following the July 12, 2006 Management Committee recommendation for approval of the Draft 2006 Conformity Analysis for the Draft FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program and the Draft Regional Transportation Plan 2006 Update, minor technical changes were made to the transportation networks for three park-and-ride lots. The revised regional emissions analysis for conformity purposes indicates that the emissions are slightly lower and even further below the conformity emissions limits. Approval of the conformity finding by the Regional Council is required for MAG adoption of the TIP and 2006 Update. This item was on the agenda for information.

6F. Approval of the Draft FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the Draft FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program, together with the requested ADOT material cost increases, contingent upon a finding of conformity of the TIP and Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update with applicable state and federal air quality implementation plans. Each year MAG updates the Five Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), primarily by adding a fifth year. All federally funded projects and regionally significant transportation projects (including city and privately funded projects) must be included in the Draft TIP for the purpose of meeting the air quality conformity analysis requirements. In April 2006, the Draft FY 2007-2011 TIP was approved by Regional Council to undergo this analysis, which is now complete. A copy of the necessary documents was made available prior to a public hearing scheduled earlier this month. Recent minor changes that do not affect the air quality conformity analysis on the Draft TIP are listed separately in the attached Errata Sheets. The MAG Transportation Review Committee and MAG Management Committee recommended approval, contingent upon a finding of air quality conformity.

6G. Approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2006 Update, contingent upon a finding of conformity of the RTP - 2006 Update and TIP with applicable state and federal air quality implementation plans. As part of the ongoing regional transportation planning process, a Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - 2006 Update has been prepared. The Draft RTP - 2006 Update was approved by the Regional Council for air quality conformity analysis on April 26, 2006. The major new items in the 2006 Update are revised revenue estimates, and inclusion of the life cycle programs for freeways/highways, arterial streets, and transit. The errata sheets included with the Draft FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) agenda item also apply to the 2006 Update. A technical conformity analysis was performed on the Draft RTP - 2006 Update and Draft TIP and demonstrated that they meet all air quality conformity requirements. On June 15, 2006, a public hearing was conducted on the Draft RTP - 2006

Update, the Draft FY 2007-2011 TIP, and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis. The MAG Transportation Review Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2006 Update, contingent upon a finding of air quality conformity.

6H. River of Trade

On June 16, 2006, the Chairman of the River of Trade Corridor Coalition (ROTCC) from Dallas, Texas, met with MAG staff and the incoming MAG Chair to discuss the ROTCC's mission and history and invite the Maricopa Association of Governments to become a member of the ROTCC. The ROTCC was created in 2004 to unite cities, counties, businesses and other transportation stakeholders along heavily traveled freeways and highways. The "River of Trade" freeway starts at Interstate 10 in Los Angeles and continues through Arizona and New Mexico before heading north at Dallas, Texas and ending in Ontario, Canada. The organization's goal is to examine ways to alleviate congestion while protecting and expanding the economic vitality of current roadways. Currently, the ROTCC includes more than 200 members spanning across nine states. On July 12, 2006, the MAG Management Committee heard a presentation from representatives of the River of Trade Corridor Coalition (ROTCC). Louis Hill and Jean E. Sides from Dean International, the firm representing the ROTCC, outlined the organization's mission and history and extended an invitation to MAG to become a member of the ROTCC. Following the presentation, the MAG Management Committee thanked Mr. Hill and Ms. Sides for their invitation, but expressed a desire to gather more information before deciding whether or not to join the organization. As such, it was recommended that a representative from this region will attend the ROTCC's next quarterly meeting on August 11, 2006, in Irving, Texas. In addition, MAG will work with the Intergovernmental representatives to discuss the issues identified by the ROTCC with Arizona's state and federal legislators. An update on the MAG Management Committee discussion was presented to the members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee. This item was on the agenda for information and discussion.

Mr. Smith commented that if the Chair had no objections, the August 16, 2006 TPC meeting could be cancelled. The next meeting of the TPC is September 20, 2006. No objections were noted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Chair

Secretary